



Vanguard News

OCTOBER
2014

EFFORT BRINGS REWARD

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

ROCKLEY MONTGOMERY

Welcome to the October edition of the Vanguard Military School newsletter.



The start to Term Four has been exceptionally good for the school, with two ministerial visits in the first two weeks. On Thursday of the first week back, we hosted David Seymour, the Epsom electorate MP and leader of ACT New Zealand, who was appointed Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the Minister of Education and Minister of Regulatory Reform. One of his key roles will be responsibility for partnership schools. As has been the case all year, the students performed with excellence, again making all of us

very proud of what has been achieved in such a short time period.

The highlight of our year, with regard to important people visiting the school, occurred on the Thursday of week two, with a visit to the school by the Prime Minister, John Key. Both the students and the staff were extremely excited when informed of the visit. The students at Vanguard have consistently, over the year, impressed us by somehow managing to improve on every visit's performance and after the absolutely amazing performance for David Seymour's visit it was difficult to believe that it could get any better, but it did. The students knew that this was the big one, most likely the biggest ever and they responded with an intensity, focus and precision that was astounding, making it difficult to believe that these students had only been at the school for less than a year. It is often very easy to talk up various aspects of schooling and educational systems, but for us to be given the opportunity to actually demonstrate to the Prime Minister and David Seymour what this school has achieved in such a short time, is unique

and has been fantastic for school morale.

Our initial enrolment process for next year is almost completed and it has been good to see the enthusiasm in the community with regard to securing a place at Vanguard for 2015. The school has in a very short time, started to build a very credible reputation out in the community. Much of this is due to you the parents and caregivers of our current



students demonstrating such huge support for the school and what this school is trying to achieve. Thank you to all those who have publically stood up and helped remove some of the negative myths around our school being



a charter school, by pointing out some of the realities and truths about the school and the charter school system as it is practised at Vanguard. I believe that our school has unequivocally demonstrated that not only is there a definite need for schools like ours, but that the potential for this type of system to make a huge difference in New Zealand education in the future is almost infinite.

The focus for our students for the rest of this term is to work hard in preparation for their external exams. Achieving their academic goal will establish the required platform for them to either return to school next year for further education or, if not returning to school, to set them up with the best possible chance of success in their future endeavours. I wish all our students the best of luck for the future.

HISTORY LESSON: HINTON SECTION

John Daniel 'Jack' Hinton VC was a New Zealand soldier who served with the New

Zealand Military Forces during the Second World War. He was awarded the Victoria Cross for his actions at Kalamata on 29 April 1941 during the Battle of Greece.

John Hinton was born in Colac Bay, Southland on 17 September 1909. He was educated at local schools, ran away from home when he was 12 and got a job at a grocer's in a nearby town, before he signed on as a galley hand aboard a Norwegian whaling ship. He did several other jobs as he traveled from town to town around the South Island.

At the outbreak of war, Hinton enlisted in the 2nd New Zealand Expeditionary Force (2NZEF) which was being raised for service abroad. He was posted to 20th Battalion and based at Burnham Military Camp. He was soon promoted to the rank of corporal.

In March 1941, the 2nd New Zealand Division was one of several Allied units deployed to Greece to support the Greek resistance to Italian and German invasion. Hinton was with the division's reserve, which was initially located in Athens, along with several thousand other, mainly Australian, troops awaiting evacuation.

On 28 April 1941, the New Zealand contingent were awaiting its transport, when advance units of the German 5th Panzer Division began an attack with machine-gun fire and self-propelled 6-inch guns. Hearing gunfire in the distance, Hinton wanted to assist in the defence of the Allied positions. Hinton protested in strong language an order from his Brigadier to surrender and left to determine for himself the situation. He led a party of 12 soldiers into the town, but came under fire.

Ignoring an order from a nearby officer to retreat, he rushed forward to the nearest gun and, hurling two grenades, killed the crew.

He continued towards the town's waterfront, clearing out two light machine-gun nests and a mortar with grenades. He then assisted in the capture of an artillery piece, but shortly after was shot in the stomach, immobilized and captured, one of about 6,000 Allied soldiers made a prisoner of war (POW).

By April 1945, the Allied advance into Germany threatened Hinton's POW camp. The Germans evacuated the camp, but Hinton, feigning sickness, remained behind. Once the guards had left, he was able to find keys to the gates and let himself out. He borrowed an American uniform and went forward to the frontline with the 44th Infantry Division and assisted in the capture of three villages and rounding up of German POWs.

Hinton was sent to England where he arrived on 12 April 1945. He remained in England for over three months, awaiting repatriation to New Zealand, and it was during this time, on 11 May 1945, that he received his Victoria Cross from King George VI at an investiture held at Buckingham Palace.

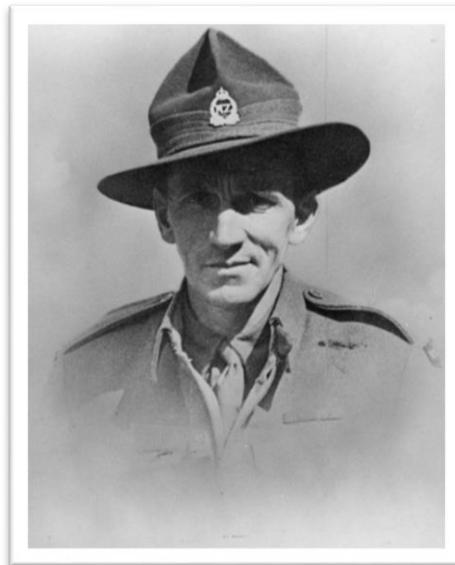
Hinton departed to New Zealand in early July and arrived in his home country on 4 August 1945. After returning home, Hinton initially

was indecisive about what to do with his life. He eventually found work managing hotels in Auckland and Hamilton.

During his time managing hotels, Hinton made a number of overseas trips, the first of which was to attend the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. He also regularly attended VC and George Cross celebrations, including the centenary in 1956.

Hinton retired in 1980 and he moved to Ashburton in the South

Island. He died on 28 June 1997 and was honored with a military funeral, attended by 800 people. He is buried in Christchurch, in the Returned Servicemen's League Section of the Ruru Lawn Cemetery.



John Daniel Hinton

FIVE MINUTES WITH....

EDDIE HUDSON, HEAD OF MĀORI



Ben Salmon-Johnston interviewing Eddie Hudson

Every month a student will interview an educator at school. Five minutes, five questions, go!

This month, Ben Salmon-Johnston, a year 11 student in Trigg Section, has interviewed Head of Māori, Eddie Hudson.

1. How long have you been educating?

Too long! (laughs) Just kidding! I taught at Rangitoto College for 12 years, Westlake Girls High School for five years, and Vanguard Military School since February. All up, that's 18 years.

2. Where did you go to school?

I was brought up in Tauranga and went to Tauranga Boys College. My Māori side is from Whakatāne, where I was also born, but we left there when I was six. My marae is Wairaka and my iwi is Ngāti Awa from my dad's side (who is one of 15 kids!), and my mother is NZ European from Hastings.

3. What made you want to become an educator?

In my sixth form year (your Year 12 these days!), I thought it would be cool to coach and teach people how to play sports and get paid for it (laughs), so I went to Otago University to get my PE degree. I got it, but it took five years instead of four because I graduated in golf as well (laughs).

4. What are you passionate about?

My family, empowering students, re-gaining my Māori side through learning the Māori language at University. I was brought up the Pākehā way, one could say. I'm also passionate about sport – I am very competitive, but fair.

5. What's one thing we wouldn't know about you?

I have three kids, two of them are twins and they're all IVF babies.

Thank you to Eddie Hudson and Ben Salmon-Johnston for interviewing – sounds like it was a pretty funny interview! We look forward to bringing you more from Vanguard's fantastic educational staff next month.

sections then had to carry heavy equipment around the course before starting a series of team building challenges, code breaking exercises or problems to solve along the way. The food station also provided some much needed energy but only if you were fond of raw eggs and dry weet-bix!

The sections also had to navigate over two military style obstacle courses with the emphasis being on leadership and teamwork. The sections individually chose their leaders before the event.



The course took about 2 hours to complete on average and it was a credit to the organisation of the school and its staff that we can co-ordinate such a large event. All students displayed the characteristics that we are looking for in a Vanguard student and learnt to push themselves through barriers they did not think they could achieve. It is through these types of activities we can test our students' perseverance, commitment and attitude.

The winning section was Hulme Section who along with their chosen section leader, William Reber have had their names engraved as the inaugural winners of the Vanguard Challenge Cup.

CHALLENGE CUP

BY NICK HYDE, CEO

In our first year we have established many traditions but one of the most grueling and all-encompassing is the Challenge Cup. As you are well aware students at Vanguard are placed into sections and this competition puts all the sections against each other over an energy sapping course in a race against the clock.

This year the event was held at the Matakana Military Arts Club to make use of their assault courses, lakes, equipment and of course the mud. After escaping the P.O.W. Camp,



UPCOMING EVENTS

- 10 November Science Level 1 External Exam
- 12 November English Level 1 External Exam
- 13 November English Level 2 External Exam
- 17 November Biology Level 2 External Exam
- 19 November Mathematics Level 2 External Exam
- 25 November Te Reo Maori Level 1 External Exam
- 12 December Graduation

INTERSECTION LEADERBOARD

SECTION	POINTS	POSITION
ELLIOT	228	1
APIATA	213	2
HULME	208	3
TRIGG	189	4
NGARIMU	182	5
UPHAM	176	6
WARD	169	7
HINTON	150	8

BLOOD DONATION DAY



A big thank you to all students who donated blood on Tuesday, 28 October. NZ Blood Service relies on donations to help save lives – your show of citizenship has helped to make a very real difference.

Thank you to Scott Robertson in the Physical Training Department for organising the day.

STUDENTS IN ACTION

We are proud of our boys who got the chance to play in the North Harbour Secondary Schools Rugby 7's Tournament on Saturday, 18 October 2014.

Thank you to the parent community and students who came along to support our team. Vanguard pride!



STUDENT CORNER

Each month we'll be providing excerpts from our students about their time at Vanguard. This month, the combined contribution comes from Hinton Section.

Being at Vanguard Military School has enhanced my academic level to beyond a point I thought I was capable of doing. It has also shown me the meaning of respect, leadership, team work and attitude. Vanguard has boosted my confidence extremely with other students.

The staff members are great role models, and through them I understand the definition of determination.

I am proud to be a part of and represent Vanguard Military School.

Calvin Thorne

Vanguard has been hands down a great experience for my family and me. They have been like a family to me. Being the youngest in the school and originally supposed to be in year 10, Vanguard have supported me through the difficult challenges that have occurred and enabled me to succeed in my goals. One of my goals is to be the first person in my family to finish High School with my Level 3. I now know that I can do it because the teachers here don't want you just to achieve, they want you to work to your full potential.

Madison Brown-Aldridge

CONTACT DETAILS

If you have any questions about this newsletter or would like to make a contribution to the next edition, please contact us at:

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